

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Duck Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:16

Commission Meeting Dates:	Proposal	July 8-9, 2014	Ft. Pierre
	Public Hearing	August 7, 2014	Ft. Pierre
	Finalization	August 7-8, 2014	Ft. Pierre

DEPARTMENT RECOMMENDATION

Season Dates and Open Areas:

High Plains Zone:	October 11, 2014 – January 15, 2015
Low Plains North & Low Plains Middle Zone:	September 27 – December 9, 2014
Low Plains South Zone:	October 11 – December 23, 2014

Daily Limits:

Ducks: 6 The duck limit may be comprised of no more than: 5 mallards (which may include no more than 2 hens), 3 wood ducks, 3 scaup, 2 redheads, 2 pintails, and 1 canvasback.

2 Bonus blue-winged teal (first 16 days of the season only)

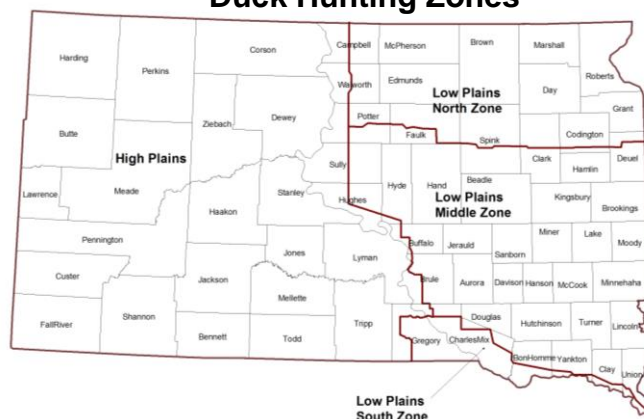
Low Plains North & Low Plains Middle Zones:	September 27 – October 12
High Plains and Low Plains South Zones:	October 11 - 26

Coots: 15

Mergansers: 5 (may include no more than 2 hooded mergansers).

Possession Limits: Three times the daily bag limits.

Duck Hunting Zones



Recommended changes from last year:

1. Decrease the canvasback daily limit from 2 to 1.
2. Allow 2 bonus blue-winged teal for the first 16 days of the duck season.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recently approved a 3-year bonus blue-winged teal experimental season for production states as an alternative to early teal seasons. The recently released teal harvest assessment estimates that blue-winged teal populations could sustain harvest rates 2-2.5 times and 7-9 times the average observed harvest rates, based on additive and compensatory mortality models, respectively.

Year	Resident Hunters	Nonresident Hunters	Ducks Harvested
2009	13,873	4,010	252,882
2010	14,038	4,123	262,302
2011	13,394	4,132	264,740
2012	12,797	3,961	233,608
2013	13,221	3,842	240,393

APPROVE _____	MODIFY _____	REJECT _____	NO ACTION _____
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